



## **Fact Sheet: Hot Mix Asphalt Plants; Blue Smoke Controls**

### **Overview:**

The Utah Division of Air Quality is considering regulating volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) plants as part of the Northern Wasatch Front (NWF) Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP). This rule would apply to all stationary HMA plants that operate in the nonattainment area (NAA) including: Salt Lake, Davis, Weber and Tooele counties.

### **Equipment:**

Hot Mix Asphalt Plants. Dryers, conveyors, silos and loading facilities as well as oil storage tanks.

### **The Rule:**

The proposed rule would require operators of HMA plants to control VOC and Blue Smoke emissions associated with the production and loading of HMA and oil storage tanks. Blue Smoke is a visible emission from hot mix asphalt plants that results from the process of mixing hot oil with aggregate. It is oil that has been heated to the point that it's become an aerosol containing VOCs. Blue Smoke controls work to control both the visible emissions and VOC emissions from HMA plants. Emissions from all points listed above must be controlled.

### **Emission Reductions:**

- There are currently 16 facilities with HMA plants permitted to operate in the NWF NAA and 148 tanks.
- The combined reported NAA emissions from all HMA plants and tanks operating in 2020 was at least 190.83 tons per year (tpy) of VOC.
- Requiring the installation of blue smoke and tank controls will reduce VOC emissions in the NAA by at least 156.82 tpy.

### **Secondary Benefits:**

- Reduced visible blue smoke emissions.
- Reduced odor associated with HMA plants.
- Year round reduction of VOC emissions.